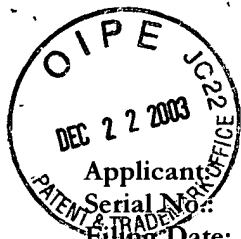


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PATENTS



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Eugenio Cefali, et al.  
Serial No.: 08/960,557  
Filing Date: 31 October 1997  
Docket Number: 50454-56103USCIP  
Title: METHODS FOR TREATING HYPERLIPIDEMIA WITH INTERMEDIATE RELEASE NICOTINIC ACID COMPOSITIONS HAVING UNIQUE BIOPHARMACEUTICAL CHARACTERISTICS  
Art Unit: 1615  
Examiner: J.M. Spear

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir;

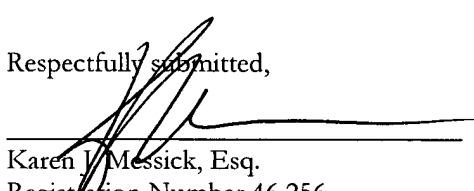
REQUEST FOR THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicants request a three (3) month extension of time up to and including December 22, 2003 for filing a Response pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 in the above-referenced case. Please charge the required fee of \$950.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 to our Deposit Account No. 50-2543. In addition, please also charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this matter to our deposit account.

If there are any questions, please call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

01/02/2004 BSAYASI1 00000127 502543 08960557  
01 FC:1253 950.00 DA

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Attorney for Applicants

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Fax: 305.377.4076

Date: 12/22/03

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10**

I hereby certify that the attached papers are being deposited with the United States Postal service as: "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on 22 December 2003 and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

EL 593 968 402 US  
Express Mail Label Number

  
Jared G. Silberhorn